Happy Birthday
Army Kitten

We're looking for
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Yoneda Kou

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至近距離の片想い

橘紅緒
北畠あけ乃
宮城とおる
奥山ふく
木下けい子
古街キッカ
井上ナヲ
山本小鉄子
sayoko
九號
羽生山へび子
菊屋ぎく
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寄る辺無き者

YORUBE NAKI MONO

ヨネダコウ

KOU YONEDA

CAST=ERI　　マ　ーたく「安い」博明論=
博ム　　大好　者=中

God proud Saga, an assassin, picked an unfamiliar man one night, a beautiful man carrying the scent of blood; he was a new fellow assassin named Shaka. Superficially, Shaka is happy and optimistic, but he appears to be spying on something. On the night of their first job, Shaka picked out and Saga ended up carrying him home. While peeling each other out, they've become attracted to one another...
...

KOTONE..
YOU HAVE MORE THAN JUST THE SWORD
WE'RE NOT THE SAME I GUESS

HAD A GOOD BATH?
JUST RUNNING AN ERRAND FOR THE LANDLADY.
YOU LOOK SO SMART AND TIDY, I ASSUMED YOU'D JUST HAD A BATH
HUH WHATEVER
?

HOW LONG IS HE PLANNING TO BE GONE?
THAT JERK..
SOUJI
YES?
I WANT TO SEE SAIGA.

I SHOULD CLEAR THIS UP NOW. I DON'T WANT A BALD MONKEY LIKE THAT
THEN, WHAT WAS ALL THAT THE OTHER DAY?
ALL THAT?
IDIOT. IT'S NOTHING LIKE THAT
AH...
WHAT'S THIS? GETTING CLINGY ALREADY?
AW, COME ON
IT'S OKAY TOO LATE TO HIDE IT NOW I ALREADY KNOW
I WAS TOO LAZY TO LAY OUT MY OWN MAT.
It's just my habit to sleep naked
Mn
Master
SQUEEZE
Sorry! Don't misunderstand
No!
YOU WERE SLEEPING WITH SAIGA-SAN ON HIS MAT!
And naked!
IT'S NOT LIKE IT MATTERS TO ANYONE IF SOMEONE LIKE ME LAMENTS OVER IT...
YAWN
IT'S REALLY FINE. WHATEVER IT IS, MASTER SAIGA IS A BIT DENSE, BUT HE REALLY HAS A GOOD HEART

JOLT
OYUKI? THE ONE FROM THIS INN?
AH! NO.
REALLY, THAT MASTER HE ALREADY HAS OYUKI-SAN AS IT IS...
SOOO-UJI.
SOU-CHAN.
BATH!
SHOULD WE GO TO THE BATHHOUSE TOGETHER?
CRASH
OYUKI-SAN IS IN LOVE WITH MASTER SAIBA
That's cool right? We're both guys. We can wash each other's backs, and then the front side...
Nonononono— What— What if I—
Oh well if you don't want to...

I SEE
THAT'S A PROBLEM
AND? DOES SAIGA LIKE HER TOO?
IS OYUKI THAT SPUNKY BEAUTY?
THAT'S RIGHT. OUR PRETTIEST GIRL.
OYUKI-SAN TOO SHE'S SO FEISTY SHE SLAPS HIM AND ALL THAT WE'RE ALL FRUSTRATED JUST WATCHING THEM
WELL, EVERYONE CAN SEE THAT OYUKI-SAN IS CRAZY ABOUT
MASTER DOESN'T SEEM TO HAVE A CLUE
THAT'S PRETTY CUTE. BOTH OF THEM.
OH? AREN'T YOU JEALOUS?
NOT REALLY I DO WONDER WHAT KINDA FACE HE'D MAKE IF HE FOUND OUT!
I WOULDN'T MIND SEEING THAT

MASTER WOULD...
...MOST LIKELY ACT COLDLY TOWARDS OYUKI-SAN.
WHY WOULD YOU THINK THAT?
WELL, IT'S JUST MY OWN THINKING,
BUT IT SEEMS LIKE MASTER HAS NO DESIRE FOR ANYTHING
AS LONG AS SOMEONE IS ALIVE THEY WILL HAVE DESIRES. WOMEN OR MONEY OR WHATEVER.
HE TALKS ABOUT WOMEN JOKINGLY, BUT MASTER NEVER TOUCHES ANY OF OUR GIRLS HERE.
MAYBE HE DOESN'T WANT TO GET TOO INVOLVED. HE'S A REALLY NICE GUY, THOUGH.

YES, THAT'S IT
I BET IT'S SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
HE DOESN'T WANT TO END UP CARING ABOUT SOMEONE?
OH, BUT HE MIGHT HAVE SLEPT WITH OYUKI-SAN ONCE, WHEN HE USED TO COME HERE AS A CLIENT
OHP SO HE DOES HAVE DESIRES THEN
BUT JUST THAT ONCE
Chuckle
TO BE HONEST, WE WERE STARTING TO WONDER IF HE WAS IMPOTENT. BUT THEN YOU ARRIVED...
Chuckle Chuckle
HOW FAR? I WAS JUST STARTING TO THINK THAT HE COULDN'T GET IT UP AS WELL.
YOU'RE LAUGHING NOW, BUT REALLY, WHAT'S GOING ON? HOW FAR HAVE YOU TWO GONE?
I KNEW IT!

AND BEFORE THAT?
HEY HOW LONG HAS HE BEEN HERE?
HUH? OH ABOUT TWO YEARS?
AH..
DID I START ANOTHER RUMOR?
POOR MASTER..
He's still so young
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, HE NEVER TALKS ABOUT IT.
DOES HE BELONG TO ANY EMPLOY-MENT AGENCIES?
YOU SHOULD ASK HIM..
..ABOUT STUFF LIKE THAT DIRECTLY

SORRY, BUT I REALLY DON'T KNOW ANYTHING
SERIOUSLY...
YOU TALK NON-STOP ABOUT NONSENSE, BUT WHEN IT COMES TO THINGS LIKE THIS YOU CLAM UP
YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT

DON'T FLATTER ME, YOU DIMWIT
THAT'S BECAUSE EVERYONE HAS AN ULTERIOR MOTIVE...
I'M TICKLED PINK...
IN ANY CASE, YOU GUYS LET ME STAY HERE WITHOUT ASKING WHERE I CAME FROM.
HUH? OH COME ON I'M NOT LIKE THAT MONKEY
I THOUGHT YOU WERE A BIT LIKE MASTER SAIGA THE FIRST TIME I MET YOU

THERE ARE A LOT OF DRIFTERS IN EDO.
MY MOTHER WAS A PROSTITUTE AT AN INN IN NAITOU-SHINJUKU*
I WAS SUCH A BRAT PEEPING IN THE ROOMS THERE
OH, SO YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED AT ALL.
HEH HEH
CLIENTS BUY WOMEN BECAUSE THEY WANT A MOMENT OF PASSION
REGARDLESS OF HOW LONG THEY STAYED, THEY ALWAYS LEFT IN THE END MY HEART WAS BROKEN SO MANY TIMES
THAT'S WHY IF SOMEONE DOESN'T ASK FOR EVEN ONE MOMENT OF AFFECTION

* A town built on a main road in order to supply [illegible] es, such as accommodation, to travelers.

I THINK IT MUST BE BECAUSE HE'S ESPECIALLY KIND AND DEVOTED.
WOW
YOU REALLY ARE INNOCENT, SOUJI
NO, NOT REALLY.
BUT I'M DIFFERENT FROM SAIGA. SO I DO HAVE THEM
HUH?
YOU KNOW...
DESIRES.
DRIP
NOTHING UNDER NEATH

YOU GET A NOSEBLEED FROM LOOKING AT A MAN'S BALLS? IS THAT A RESULT OF WORKING IN A BROTHEL?
HA HA HA!
YOU.. YOU WERE THE ONE WHO SHOWED THEM OFF!
WHERE IS SAIGA'S HOUSE?
OVER THERE
HEY, BALD MONKEY
IT'S ME OPEN UP OR I'LL BREAK DOWN THE DOOR
HE'S NOT HERE RIGHT NOW

THEY'RE WATCHING SO CLOSELY; I CAN'T SEARCH HIS HOUSE
DO YOU KNOW WHERE HE IS?
...
?
ARE YOU A LOAN SHARK OR SOMETHING?
NO. I JUST WORK WITH HIM.
ANYWAY, I KNOW I DON'T LOOK LIKE A SAINT,
BUT DOESN'T HE LOOK A LOT MEANER THAN ME?
I DON'T SEE IT.
KAH!
GUH!
KAH!
GUH!

Don't lose to him!
Get!
GUH!
Get!
...
I JUST DON'T LIKE IT...
NOW!
There!
THUD
AH!
UGH!

YOU SKIP WORK TO RUN A PRETEND DOJO?* MUST BE NICE TO BE YOU
*Dojo: Martial arts hall
SO IT'S NICER TO BE YOU THEN
IT'S NOT A PROBLEM IF YOU'RE AT THE INN WITHOUT ME RIGHT?
I'M JUST A FREELOADER YOU'RE THE BODYGUARD
WHAT ARE YOU DOING TEACHING THESE KIDS SWORD FIGHTING?
I WAS JUST PLAYING WITH A FEW. THEN MORE OF THEM STARTED SHOWING UP
WOW. SO NOBLE.
AND WHAT? YOU FELT SORRY FOR THEM? IS THAT WHY YOU DECIDED TO TEACH THEM SWORDPLAY?
THEY DON'T HAVE THE MONEY FOR THAT
WHY DON'T THEY JUST GO TO TERAKOYA?*
*A form of a school in Edo Period.

IS IT FUN TEACHING KIDS HOW TO KILL?
YOU, THE MAN WHO KILLS FOR FIVE RYO?*
ARE YOU JUST GRUMPY OR DID I HIT A SORE SPOT?
BOTH.
*Monetary unit of Edo Period.
DON'T TAKE IT OUT ON ME.
I DON'T REALLY LIKE UMURA, BUT I DON'T MIND HIM EITHER.
HE'S STUPID AND PUSHY, AN IDIOT, AND EASY TO READ.
BUT YOU.

A HALF ASS WHO WON'T TAKE SIDES
THE MORE I GET TO KNOW YOU THE MORE IRRITATED I GET
SOUJI SAYS...
...YOU'RE A DEVOTED PERSON.
SO WHY DON'T YOU SLEEP WITH OYUKI?
IT'S LESS WORK THAN PLAYING WITH LITTLE BRATS.
OR IS IT REALLY TRUE THAT YOU CAN'T GET IT UP?
HA HA...
WHAT'S SO FUNNY?

HALF ASS? YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT YOURSELF RIGHT?
YOU MADE MY HEART FLUTTER A BIT THERE
THAT'S A NICE LOOK ON YOUR FACE

Oh!
Hey look.
A PERFECT OPPORTUNITY TEACH ME HOW TO USE A SWORD
I HAVE NO REASON TO FIGHT YOU
PULL YOUR SWORD
LOSER. WE'RE NOT GOING TO KILL EACH OTHER IT'S JUST SPARRING, OK?Y?
...
Sigh
YOU RE SUCH A PAIN
SHUT UP, YOU BALD MONKEY
I'M NOT BALD.

YES SIR IT'S VERY EMBARRASSING I'M SO SORRY
WE'RE DOING EVERYTHING-
IT'S BEEN ALMOST 2 YEARS KUNIGI
SMACK

I'M TIRED OF YOUR EXCUSES
YES SIR.
I DON'T CARE HOW LITTLE SHOW ME SOME PROGRESS
WE HAVE "GRASS" ATTACHED TO THE FAMILY OF KAZUMA TOONO.
BUT THERE HAS BEEN NO CONTACT WITH TOONO AS YET
HMPH.
YOU SAID SO.
HOW ABOUT "THE FINISHER"?
WITH HIS LEVEL OF SKILL, IT'S UNLIKELY HE'D FORGET THE SWORD.
THERE IS NO PROGRESS THERE, EITHER.
PATHETIC.

*antiquated Jargon meaning male informant

ISN'T IT ABOUT TIME WE STARTED PLANNING AN ALTERNATIVE?
EVEN IF WE PUT THE WANTED SIGNS AT ALL CHECKPOINTS I HEAR IT'S NOT TOO HARD FOR ONE MAN TO SLIP OUT OF EDO
EVEN IF WE EXPAND THE SEARCH WE CAN NARROW IT DOWN A LITTLE, SINCE WE ALREADY KNOW WE'RE LOOKING FOR A MAN WITH ONE EYE
YES SIR
KUNUGI, I HOPE YOU HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN
ONCE YOU WERE NOT EVEN WORTH SOHYAKU KOKU
WHOSE INFLUENCE WAS IT THAT MADE YOU THE DAIBANTOU?
YES
OF COURSE I HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN

koku(石/kokuku) is actually a measurement of volume: 500 koku, or 500 rice, in Edo period it's used to calculate the GDP of a piece of land owned by Lords by which you can tell how powerfull/rich they are. 500 is pity little, and now that kunugi is Daibantou he gets 5000-10000 **Ranks. Daibantou is at the top level.

LORD KUNISI, PLEASE USE THIS FOR YOUR WOUND
IT'S NOTHING. DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT
YES, SIR.
INFLUENCE MY ASS, OLD MAN
IT'S NOT JUST TOONO WHO'S GOING TO BE DISCARDED WHEN THE JOB IS DONE.
I'LL SHOW HIM BEFORE THAT HAPPENS
RUSTLE

PART 3 / END